

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. ~~A printer provided with an auxiliary storage, comprising:~~

5 control of a print engine according to a request for printing;

an image generation task for generating said request for printing based upon print data sent from an external device;

10 a task for writing to the auxiliary storage, by which data related to printing is stored in said auxiliary storage; and

15 a task for reading from the auxiliary storage, by which said data stored in said auxiliary storage is read,

wherein each of said tasks are exclusively selected and executed according to each priority,

wherein a relative order of priority based upon the priority of said task for writing to said auxiliary storage and the priority of said image generation task is varied when a predetermined event occurs.

2. A printer according to claim 1, wherein priorities lower than the priority of said printing task is applied to said task for writing to said auxiliary storage and said task for reading from said auxiliary storage.

25 3. A printer according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined event is a predetermined elapse of time.

4. ~~A printer according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined event is an occurrence of a predetermined situation which occurs in a processing of any of tasks.~~

5. 5. A printer according to claim 4, wherein said predetermined event is judgment that quantity of requests for printing generated by said image generation task and stored to be consumed by said printing task exceeds predetermined quantity.

10 6. ~~A printer according to claim 1, wherein a priority lower than the priority of said task for reading from said auxiliary storage is applied to said task for writing to said auxiliary storage.~~

15 7. A printer comprising:  
an auxiliary storage for storing data related to printing;

a print engine for executing printing; and  
a controller comprising:

20 writing means for storing said data in said auxiliary storage;

reading means for reading said data stored in said auxiliary storage;

25 image generation means for generating a request for printing supplied to said print engine; and

print engine,

wherein, if a predetermined event occurs during processing for generating said printing request by said image generation means, said writing means is executed more precedently than a generation of said request for printing by said image generation means.

8. A printer according to claim 1, wherein said data related to printing stored in said auxiliary storage includes print data sent from an external device.

9. A printer according to claim 1, wherein said data related to printing stored in said auxiliary storage includes at least a part of said request for printing.

10. A printer control method, comprising:  
a writing process for storing print data received from an external device in an auxiliary storage;  
a reading process for reading print data written to said auxiliary storage;  
a generation process for generating a request for printing based upon said read print data; and  
a printing process for printing based upon said request for printing,

wherein said writing process is controlled so that it is  
periodically executed by CPU even while said generation process  
is executed by said CPU.

5           11.    A printer control method, comprising:  
              a writing process for storing print data received from  
              an external device in an auxiliary storage;  
              a reading process for reading print data written to said  
              auxiliary storage;  
              a generation process for generating a request for  
              printing based upon said read print data; and  
              a printing process for printing based upon said request  
              for printing,  
              wherein said writing process is controlled so that it is  
              precedently executed by said CPU in case a stored quantity of said  
              requests for printing generated by an execution of said generation  
              process by CPU is equal to predetermined quantity.

10  
15  
20  
25           12.    A record medium for recording a program for  
              operating a printer provided with an auxiliary storage and a print  
              engine by exclusively selecting and executing any of plural tasks  
              according to priority, wherein said program comprises:  
              a writing task for storing data in said auxiliary storage;  
              a reading task for reading data stored in said auxiliary  
              storage;

~~an image generation task for generating a request for printing supplied to said print engine; and a printing task for controlling said print engine, wherein said printing task is controlled so that it is most precedently executed.~~

13. A record medium for recording a program for operating a printer provided with an auxiliary storage and a print engine by exclusively selecting and executing any of plural tasks according to priority, wherein:

10 said program comprises:  
a writing task for storing data in said auxiliary storage;  
a reading task for reading data stored in said auxiliary storage;

15 an image generation task for generating a request for printing supplied to said print engine; and  
a printing task for controlling said print engine,  
wherein priority according to which said writing task and  
20 said image generation task are executed is controlled so that it is varied according to a predetermined condition.